UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA NEW ALBANY DIVISION

FREDERICK D. JONES,)	
Petitioner, v.)	No. 4:16-cv-47-TWP-DML
SHERIFF FRANK LOOP,)	
Respondent.)	

Entry Directing Further Proceedings

Before the Court proceeds with a further assessment of the Petitioner Frederick D. Jones's claims, it must be noted that on June 3, 2016 Jones filed a notice of appeal from the Entry of May 23, 2016. His appeal has been docketed as No. 16-2348.

Without a doubt, final judgment has not been entered in this action and this Court has not concluded the steps required for adjudication of the habeas petition. However, an interlocutory appeal can be authorized pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b). A district court is authorized to certify a non-final order for appeal under 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b) when it is of the opinion that such an order "involves a controlling question of law, as to which there is a substantial ground for difference of opinion and that an immediate appeal from the order may materially advance the ultimate termination of the litigation."

The Seventh Circuit explains that the following criteria must all be satisfied before a district court should certify an interlocutory appeal:

- (1) the appeal presents a question of law; (2) it is controlling; (3) it is contestable;
- (4) its resolution will expedite the resolution of the litigation, and (5) the petition to appeal is filed in the district court within a reasonable amount of time after entry of the order sought to be appealed.

Boim v. Quranic Literacy Inst. & Holy Land Found. for Relief & Dev., 291 F.3d 1000, 1007 (7th Cir. 2002). "Unless all these criteria are satisfied, the district court may not and should not certify its order to us for an immediate appeal under section 1292(b)." Ahrenholz v. Bd. of Trs. of Univ. of Ill., 219 F.3d 674, 676 (7th Cir. 2000). Only "exceptional" circumstances warrant interlocutory appeals under § 1292(b). See, e.g., Caterpillar Inc. v. Lewis, 519 U.S. 61, 74 (1996); Coopers & Lybrand v. Livesay, 437 U.S. 463, 475 (1978); Carson v. Am. Brands, Inc., 450 U.S. 79, 84 (1981) (interlocutory appeals are generally prohibited unless litigants can show that an order will have serious consequences that can only be prevented by immediate appeal rather than appeal after judgment.).

"A notice of appeal deprives the district court of jurisdiction over the issues presented on the appeal." *Blue Cross and Blue Shield Ass'n v. American Express Co.*, 467 F.3d 634, 637 (7th Cir. 2006)(citing *Griggs v. Provident Consumer Discount Co.*, 459 U.S. 56 (1982)). "The purpose of this rule is to avoid the confusion of placing the same matter before two courts at the same time and to preserve the integrity of the appeal process." *Levey v. Sys. Div., Inc., (In re Teknek, LLC)*, 563 F.3d 639, 651 (7th Cir. 2009)(citing *Whispering Pines Estates, Inc. v. Flash Island, Inc.*, 369 B.R. 752, 757 (Bkrtcy.App. 1 (N.H.) 2007)).

The general rule just cited "does not operate . . . where there is a purported appeal from a non-appealable order." *United States v. Bastanipour*, 697 F.2d 170, 173 (7th Cir. 1982), *cert. denied*, 460 U.S. 1091 (1983)(citing *United States v. Garner*, 663 F.2d 834, 838 (9th Cir. 1981), and **Moore's Federal Practice** ¶ 203.11, at 3-51 (2d ed. 1982)); *see also Szabo v. U.S. Marine Corp.*, 819 F.2d 714, 717 (7th Cir. 1987)("if there was no final order when [defendants] filed [their] notice of appeal, the notice was premature, and did not confer appellate jurisdiction"), *amended*, (7th Cir. May 27, 1987)(citing *United States v. Hansen*, 795 F.2d 35 (7th Cir. 1986)).

In this case, although the notice of appeal has been processed, no certification pursuant to § 1292(b) has been issued. In fact, no certification pursuant to § 1292(b) has even been sought. It is very likely, therefore, that the petitioner's "interlocutory appeal" is a nullity.

To err on the side of caution, however, and avoid the substantial problem which would result if this Court proceeds and it is later determined that it did so without jurisdiction because of the interlocutory appeal, the petitioner shall have **30 days in which to seek a stay of proceedings** in this Court until the appeal docketed as Case No. 16-2348 has been concluded.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: <u>6/13/2016</u>

TANYA WALTON PRATT, JUDGE United States District Court Southern District of Indiana

aux Walton Craft

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